Pgh. Press 7-19-76

Ruby, Oswald Linked Before JFK Slaying

NEW YORK (UPI) — A nightclub entertainer, who said he once worked in Jack Ruby's Dallas night club, says Ruby and Lee Harvey Oswald were acquainted prior to the assassination of President Kennedy, according to the Sunday News.

The copyrighted article identified the entertainer as Walter Weston, a master of ceremonies at Ruby's Carousel nightclub in the period shortly before the slaying of Kennedy.

The article quotes Weston as saying that about three weeks before the assassination he was onstage at the Carousel when a man approached and accused him of being a Communist.

After an angry exchange, Weston jumped off the stage and hit the man who fell backward in Ruby's arms.

"Jack grabbed him and said, 'I told you never to come in here,' And then he wrestled him to the door and threw him down the stairs of the Carousel," the article quoted Weston as saying.

Weston said that later he recognized newspaper photos of Oswald as the man kicked out of the night club by Ruby.

According to the News story, Weston said a few days after the assassination he was questioned by Dallas police and the FBI but did not mention the nightclub incident because he wasn't sure Oswald was the man he hit at the Carousel.

Weston said that he studied pictures of Oswald and became convinced he was the man who came to the night club. Weston said his opinion was confirmed by a stripper, Kathy Kay, he met at the club after the assassination.

Kay told him Oswald was "the same guy that you punched out that night — and I danced with him," the article said.